



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

216514



MAR 19 2007

Alberto G. Santos, Mayor  
Town Hall  
402 Kearny Avenue  
Kearny, NJ 07032

Dear Mayor Santos:

I am inviting you to an important meeting on April 18, 2007 with other local municipal officials, federal and state agencies, and key stakeholder groups to discuss the Passaic River and Newark Bay. The meeting will be held at the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority in Newark, NJ.

At this meeting, we will update you on the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project - a comprehensive, federal-state partnership project designed to restore the lower 17 miles of the Passaic River from the Dundee Dam south to Newark Bay - and on the study of contamination in Newark Bay. This discussion will include the status of federal-state cleanup proposals being developed to address the serious problem of polluted sediments in the Passaic River. We will also highlight various state and federal environmental programs and resources potentially available to restore and revitalize your community.

It is very important that our plans reflect your vision and that of your neighbors for the Passaic River and Newark Bay and their shorelines. At the meeting, we will share with you the results of New Jersey's future-use survey of 17 Passaic River/Newark Bay municipalities. This was a recent survey which collected information from you on your visions and plans. We also hope to explore with you the best ways to continue a dialog and obtain input from you on your visions and plans. Please come prepared to discuss your ideas with us on how we might do this.

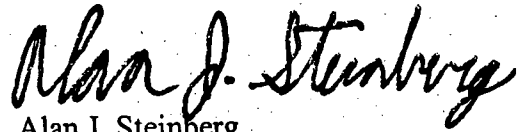
The federal and state partner agencies working on the Passaic River and Newark Bay have always emphasized the importance of a clean river and bay to the health of the municipalities on its shores. I am hopeful that municipalities will play an important role in developing cleanup and restoration plans to address the problems posed by the sediment contamination and loss of ecological habitats.

Enclosed is a draft agenda and response form for the meeting. Please RSVP by sending the enclosed response form by fax to Sandy Newhall (Brownfield Redevelopment Solutions, Inc.) at fax 856-583-0467. Alternatively you could call her at 609-556-0588 or email to: [sandy@njbrownfield.com](mailto:sandy@njbrownfield.com) For questions about the project,

please contact David Kluesner, with EPA's Public Affairs office, at (212) 637-3653 or  
email to: [kluesner.dave@epa.gov](mailto:kluesner.dave@epa.gov)

I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alan J. Steinberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan J. Steinberg  
Regional Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Michael J. Martello